(64) -1-

File No. 87/47-Pub (B)

1947

PUBLIC (B)

Government of India

Home Department

Public (B) Section

MHA
Public-(B)
1947
FNo-87/47-Pub(B)

Prog. Nos.
Serial

NOTES.

Subject.

Hoisting of National Flag and Celebrations for ... Day on 15th August, 1947.

Previous References.

Later References.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(2)

HOME DEPARTMENT.
Public (B) Section.

As Home Department will be mainly respon for the issue of general orders and instructions to Provincial Governments and Departments of the Govern of India etc., regarding the public celebrations to held on 15th August, H.M. (Home) desires that there should be a representative of this Department on the Celebrations Committee. It is requested that the formal approval of H.M., Works, Mines and Power Department may be obtained to include on the Working Committee the Secretary of the Home Department or his representative and inform us immediately.

2. A copy of the finalised minutes of the Celebrations Committee as well as subsequent minutes of the Main Committee or the Sub-Committee may kindly be sent officially to the Home Department to by name to Mr. G.V. Bedekar, Deputy Secretary by ~~name~~ forthwith. Notices of meetings of the Working Committee may also accordingly be sent to the above officer by name. The exact detailed programme as finally settled may kindly be sent immediately to this Department to enable us to communicate the same to the Provincial Governments and the Departments of the Government of India, etc as well as Foreign Embassies (through External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations Department).

I have been instructed to send this to Mr H.C. Gupta by name.

immediate

o/c A V Raman
24.7.47

W M P Deptt (Mr H.C. Gupta)

H.D.U.O.No.122/47-Pub(B) D/24-7-47.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(3)

IMMEDIATE

As Home Department will be mainly responsible f the issue of orders and instructions regarding the public celebrations on the 15th August H.M.(Home) desir that there should be a representative of the Home Departme as well on the Celebrations Committee. Please suggest a suitable representative. I shall then speak to Mr. V.P.Menon.

D.S. (Mr. Bederar)

24-7-47
(R.N.BANERJEE)
SECRETARY.

24/7

D.S(P) gave this to me and instructed me to request the H.M.P to include the Secretary, HD or his representative on the working committee for the August 15th celebrations. I have sent a u.o. note separately (vide p. 1 ante)

He also asked me to prepare a draft y instructions to Provinces etc regarding

(i) hoisting y national flag and lowering y union Jack;

(ii) celebration y 15.8.47 by distribution of sweets to school children, release y convicts, illumination and fire-works parades etc. as they may deem fit

Please prepare a draft accordingly.

A V Raman
25.7.47

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(4)

epage s.no 4(1-2)-F.R.

Draft to the Provincial Governments etc. is sub-
1. A draft to the Registrar, Federal Court of India
lso submitted.

2. We have received only one specimen of the National
g from the Constituent Assembly. Office venture to
ggest that a specimen of the Flag may be supplied to
ach of the Provincial Governments and the Chief Commissioners.
It is understood that the Constituent Assembly will not be
able to supply so many specimens but they can be obtained
from Edde & Co., Connaught Place. If the above suggestion
is accepted arrangements will be made to purchase the
required number of Flags. After issue of the drafts
necessary action will be initiated as regards the flag-
hoisting ceremony.

25.7.47. 3. It is understood that the letter to the C.C., A.&N. Isls. will not reach him before the 15th August unless some special arrangements are made to deliver it. It is necessary that the letter should reach him sufficiently in advance of the 15th Aug. to enable him to make necessary preparations. In case it is not possible to allow him sufficient time requisite no. of flags for his use may perhaps be supplied from here. A.&N. Sec. may see on this point and kindly advise. If they have no objection, they may take necessary action in the matter.

BMS 25.7.47

Thro' A&N. Sec.

We may agree to a take action so far as the A&N Islands are concerned. A copy of the order may please be endorsed to this section.

P.N. 25/7

SW 25/7/47 USO(A&N)

Q & Thro' 25.7.47

DFA I
DFA II

x p-2/c

(5)

(From p.3 ante)

I have recast the draft to Provincial Governmen and Chief Commissioners on the lines of D.S.(P)'s instructions, as also the endorsements separately to the E.A. and C.R. Department and the Defence Department.

2. As regards para. 4 of the draft, I have adopted the programme from the copy of the minutes of the celebration committee obtained informally. It is presumed that the programme is in order.

A V Raman
25-7-1947.

D.S.(P).

The Draft below is for approval

26/7/47

Secy
P.S to H.M.

Slip 'A'
pp 1-4

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

I have discussed with H.M. today the question as to when the New Flag of India should be first hoisted. I understood that that event should take place on the 15th August.

Home Department have to issue instructions to all concerned regarding the flying of the New Flag. Office or I have no authoritative information on this subject. I should be grateful for H.M's instructions if we should proceed forthwith to issue instructions for ~~the~~ flying the New Flag or any other formalities have to be gone through e.g. a formal Cabinet decision approving and adopting the Flag.

"D" In this connection I place a typical enquiry from Defence Department.

H.M.

24-7-47
(R.N.BANERJEE)
SECRETARY.

H.M. considers that in view of the short time available, we need not wait for formal approval of the Cabinet but may act in anticipation of it. But a note may be sent to the Cabinet Secty. intimating the action taken and requesting approval.

The flag to be flown on 15.8.47 would be the new flag approved by the Constituent Assembly.

Instructions should issue to Prov. Govts and Departments. Presumably C.P.W.D. will make arrangements to supply these flags to Depts. Defence Depts. could make their own arrangements through RIN (I remember they furnished the flags in the United Nations Day in 1943).

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

the flags should preferably be in Khaddar; seeing that a suitable swadeshi cloth should be used.

V Shankar
26.7.47
PS.

Secy

Please reexamine your draft in the light of the above — it is necessary.

Letter to P.S. to Defts. and Lists on 28/7 will please be sent after reexamination.

28/7/47

H.S.(P)
28/7/47

A line is quickly shown from army H.Q. (P.S. Nema) to the H.M.'s P.S. to have the draft approved by H.M.

28/7/47

H.M.
28/7/47

I shall mention this matter to H.M. I would suggest it does not seem necessary to await his approval of the draft which is generally in conformity with the instructions contained in my note above. But if Secy would like to have H.M.'s approval to the draft as well, I would obtain. This would, however, delay the despatch of the wire tomorrow.

I would suggest the omission of the elaborate instructions to E.A.D. in connection with celebrations as we are doing in the case of Defence Depts to issue appropriate instructions re flag as well.

I also suggest that Defence Depts may issue detailed instructions themselves. If it were left

to local commanders, many waved by different standards ~~particularly~~ and the public might draw their own conclusions.

28.7.47
PS.

Secy

I have made a slight addition to the endorsement for Defence Dept. The D.S. has no comments. Please issue without further delay.

28/7/47

D.S. (P)

28/7/47

Ser
28/7

Cer
Pp. 4-8

Serial nos. 3 & 4 - Issue.

Serial no. 5.

For information. D.S. need not be troubled.

BMS
30.7.47

F.R

Serial no. (6)

No action seems to be necessary. E.A.

BMS
30.7.47

Dept will issue suitable instructions.

A V Raman
30.7.47

A&(C)

M&R
31/7

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(9)

S.No. 7 (F.R.)

Detailed instructions to the C.C., Coorg has been issued under this Deptt. letter No. 87/47-Public (R) dt. 29.7.47. He may be asked to contact the Madras Govt. for the supply of flags if no manufacturers are available locally or ~~to~~ intimate their requirements to this Deptt. An express telegram is put up for approval accordingly.

B.S.R.
30.7.47

B.M.S.
30.7.47

Sd. A. V. Raman
30.7.47

S. No. 8

Please keep on Ceremonials file.

Sd. A. V. Raman.
31.7.47.

Complied with & pl. see pp. 9-11 infra. 31/7

S.No. 9.

I have not seen P.S.V's d.o. to Secretary, W.M.P. Please put copy and see if we have to take any action on this. I don't think we have.

Sd. R.N. Banerjee.
30.7.47.

No action, except regarding Oath, after form is settled.

Sd. G.V. Badekar
31.7.47

Please place on Celebrations file.

Sd. A.V. Raman
31.7.47

S. No. 10

We have already sent a telegram to Coorg suggesting Contact with Madras Government. We also enquired if flags are needed from here.

Sd. A. V. Raman.
31.7.47

The telegram has been issued in accordance with the note on SNo.7 above. No further action (A.S. need not be troubled)

31.7.47

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

An informal meeting under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Member for Works, Mines and Power was held on 21.7.47 to draw up a tentative programme for the celebrations to be held on the occasion of the inauguration of the new Dominion of India. The following officers were present :-

1. Mr.V.P.Menon, CSI, CIE.,
   Secretary, States Department.
2. Mr.H.V.R.Iengar, CIE., ICS.,
   Secretary, Constituent Assembly.
3. Mr.D.L. Mazumdar, I.C.S.,
   Secretary, Works, Mines & Power Department.
4. Col. D.H.Curtis, CIE., OBE., MC.,
   Military Secretary to H.E. the Viceroy.
5. Mr.B.S.Puri, OBE., ISE.,
   Chief Engineer, Central P.W.D.
6. Mr.T.P.Gateley, MBE.,
   Superintending Engineer, Central P.W.D.

2. The following provisional programme was proposed :-

(a) Swearing-in-Ceremony at the Viceroy's House.

H.E. would be sworn in as Governor-General of the new Dominion of India. Hon'ble Ministers would then be sworn in by H.E.

Guns would be fired immediately after the swearing-in is over.

This ceremony will be a purely official function, and all senior officers with their families would be invited.

It was generally agreed that the ceremony should take place at the Viceroy's House. A suggestion was made that this ceremony might take place at the Constituent Assembly Hall, but the consensus of opinion at the meeting was in favour of holding the ceremony at the Viceroy's House - particularly as this would render the incidental function of the State drive from the Viceroy's House to the Constituent Assembly Hall more effective and popular.

(b) After the swearing-in is over, the invitees will proceed immediately to the Constituent Assembly Hall, where

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

where a ceremony to indicate the transfer of Power from H.M.G. to the new Dominion will take place. Shortly afterwards the Hon'ble Ministers and H.E. will drive in State from the Viceroy's House and the Constituent Assembly Hall.

(c) Hand-over ceremony at the Constituent Assembly Hall.

Besides officials and local dignitories, representatives of India States and Provincial Prime Ministers will be invited to this ceremony.

There will be a Guard of Honour of Indian troops as H.E. will alight at the gate leading to the Constituent Assembly Hall. He will be received by the President of the Constituent Assembly who will escort him to the Hall.

At the Hall, the President will introduce H.E. to the Provincial Prime Ministers and perhaps to the leading representatives of the States. (This point will be settled later on).

H.E. will then deliver a speech announcing H.M.G.'s decision to transfer power to the new Dominion of India.

The President of the Constituent Assembly will make a suitable reply.

Immediately afterwards the National Flag will be hoisted on the Constituent Assembly buildings and all public buildings in Delhi.

H.E. will then leave the Constituent Assembly Hall accompanied by the President of the Assembly. He will inspect the Guard of Honour, and drive back in State to the Viceroy's House.

(d) Flag-salutation ceremony near War Memorial Arch.

This ceremony will take place in the evening between 5 and 6 P.M.

This will be a public function and seating arrangements on a fairly large scale will have to be made along the Central Vista. The military bands will play. H.E. will drive in

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(12)

State from the Viceroy's House to the War Memorial Arch and inspect a Guard of Honour of Indian troops.

H.E. will then hoist the National Flag to the accompaniment of the firing of Guns.

He will then haul down the Union Jack when the Royal Salute will be given.

A march-past of troops will follow.

H.E. will then drive back in State to the Viceroy's House.

(c) Celebrations at night.

Illumination and flood-lighting of the principal public buildings in Delhi, together with the War Memorial Arch and the ~~fxxxxxxxxxxx~~ fountains will be undertaken by the Electrical Wing of Central Public Works Dept.

There will also be an exhibition of fireworks near the Great Place between 8 and 9-30 p.m.

3. It was agreed that, if possible, sweets and Commemoration (Independence) Medals should be distributed among school children. As time was very short, it was doubtful if it would be possible to strike the medals in course of the next few days. Necessary enquiries would, however, be initiated atonce.

4. Publicity arrangements will have to be undertaken in consultation with P.I.O. and All-India Radio. All the principal ceremonies should be filmed.

5. Military Secretary's office will work out the details of the ceremonies - paras 2(a), 2(c) and 2(d). Central P.W.D. will be responsible for decorations, seating arrangements, supply of National Flags to public buildings, arrangements for fire-works and connected activities. Superintending Engineer, Electricity, CPWD, will be responsible for all lights and illumination.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(WORKS, MINES & POWER DEPARTMENT - INDIA)

Proceedings of the Second meeting of the Celebrations Committee held on the 28th July 1947 in room No.156 (of Mr. Puri, C.E.,CPWD) North Block Sect.,New Delhi.

Present

1. Mr. B.S.Puri, OBE., ISE., Chief Engineer,Central Public Works Dept. - Chairman.
2. Mr. D.L.Mazumdar, ICS., Secretary to the Govt.of India, Works,Mines & Power Department.
3. Col. D.H.Currie,OBE.,MC.,DCM., Mily.Secy.to H.E. the Viceroy.
4. Col. H.L.Currie, A.G.'s Branch, GHQ(India).
5. Mr. M.S.Randhawa, ICS.,Deputy Commissioner,Delhi.
6. Mr. D.C.Lal, I.P., Senior Supdt.of Police,Delhi.
7. Mr. E.U.Damodaran, Deputy Secretary,Defence Dept.(India).
8. Major B. Pritam Singh, Chief Administrative Officer,GHQ(India).
9. Mr. M.A.Hussain,ICS., Dy. Secy.,I.& B.Dept.(India).
10. Mr.B.F.H.B.Tyabji,ICS.,Dy. Secy., Constituent Assembly.
11. Mr. J.D.Kapadia,ICS., Dy.Secy.,I.& S.Dept.(India).
12. Mr. T.P.Gateley,MBE.,Chairman,Central Electrical & Mechanical Works Board, Delhi.
13. Mr. L.R.Sethi, Superintendent of Education,Delhi,Ajmer & Merwara, Delhi.
14. Mr. P.M.Agerwala, District Manager, Delhi Telephones.
15. Mr.Y.K.Puri,ICS., Under Secretary, Finance Dept.(India).
16. Mr.D.R.Bahl, Administrative Officer, C.P.W.D.
17. Mr. G.R.Deolalikar, Architect, C.P.W.D.
18. Rao Sahib A.V. Raman,Assistant Secretary,Home Dept.(India).
19. Rai Sahib Savitri Prasada, PCS., P.A.to Dy.Commr.,Delhi.
20. Sardar Bahadur Bahadur Singh.
21. Mr. H.C.Gupta,ICS.,Dy.Secy.,WMP Dept.(India) - Member-Secy.
22. Mr. R.P.Barman, I.SE.,S.E., Central P. W.D.

H.E. Military Secretary to the Viceroy read out a statement about the programme connected with the Swearing-in ceremony at the Government House, the State Drive to Constituent Assembly and functions in the Constituent Assembly, and the Flag hoisting ceremony in the evening at Princes -

Princes Park, and suggested the timings of the various ceremonies as well as of the fire works and the State Banquet and reception at Government House. Provisional agreement was arrived at fixing 9.30 a.m. for commencement of the ceremony at the Government House and 11.30 a.m. at the Constituent Assembly Hall, and Col.Currie undertook to give a detailed programme at the next meeting on the 30th inst.

2. It was gathered that the Home Dept. desired the function at the Government House to be attended by as many people as possible. It was provisionally agreed that officers up to the rank of Assistant Secretary would be invited, and that Mr.Tyabji would ascertain from the President of the Constituent Assembly whether members of that Assembly would like to attend. In that event officers' wives would be omitted. The Deputy Commissioner, Delhi, undertook to furnish the names of officers to be invited from the Delhi Administration. There would be 780 seats in the Darbar Hall, of which 80 would provisionally be allotted to the Press, 300 to the Constituent Assembly members and 400 to officials.

3. With regard to the hoisting of the National Flags, it was the sense of the Committee that it should be done simultaneously at about 11-30 a.m. as soon as the reply to Governor-General's speech ended and when the guns started firing. The C.P.W.D. would hoist the flags on the Council House also on that day. The consensus of opinion also favoured the flag on the Red Fort and Government House to be hoisted simultaneously. Col.Currie, Mily.Secy. to H.E. the Viceroy was against the proposal of the Delhi Flying Club to shower flowers from the air on the State procession.

4. With regard to the evening celebrations, it was expected that a fly-past by a squadron of the Indian Air Force could be arranged, but the programme was so crowded and time so short that mass bands and a night tatoo would be impracticable. After the National Flag had been unfurled at about 6-30 p.m. suitable time should be found for singing Indian National songs like "Bande Matram", "Jhanda Uchcha Rahe Hamara", "Jan Ginn Man",etc. The fire works will be at 7-45 p.m.; State Banquet at 8-45 p.m. and

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

and Reception at 10 p.m. Exact timings and full details are expected to be known on the 30th inst. from Col.Currie,M.S.to H.E. the Viceroy.

5. National Flags. As supplies are not expected to be available before the 5th August, it was suggested that E.A. & C.R. Dept. may send out sample flags to Ambassies overseas, who might make local arrangements for themselves. Departmental requisitions have not been received so far in many instances and a second circular letter will go out indicating to them the sizes and prices as soon as these are finalised. For residential buildings and for Government servants generally, flags will be on sale and it is necessary that the requirements of different departments should be known as early as possible. The proposal to print 2 lacs of miniature paper flags, was abandoned but private trade should be informed through suitable channel (P.I.O.) so that they may cater to public demand in this respect.The sizes proposed now are - 12' X 6'; 6' X 4'; 3' X 2' and 9" X 6". All these will be of cotton cloth, except those for Constituent Assembly Hall and Flag Hoisting Ceremony in Princes Park where they should be of pure hand-spun silk or pure hand-spun khadi. Mr. Barman, S.E.,CPWD., was requested to undertake all the arrangements in connection with the Flags.

6. Mela and Fire works. The plans of this Committee were reviewed and the expenditure was roughly estimated as follows -

(i) Fire works - Rs.20,000/-; to be displayed near Central Vista on the 15th evening and near Red Fort on the 16th evening. These would be on a very large scale. It was not considered advisable to have a large number of small displays.

(ii) Sweats to school children - Rs.10,000/-.

The proposed'Mela' was abandoned in view of the crowded programme. The Superintendent of Education, Delhi, and some Heads of Educational Institutions may be co-opted by this Committee to assist in distribution of sweets in schools,either on 14th or 19th August.

7. Independence Medals. Mr. Gupta stated that he had discussed with the Mint Master, Bombay, a proposal for striking Independence Medals -

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(16) -15-

Medals within the short time at our disposal and had ascertained that it would be possible, provided some standard size was adopted and the design was fairly simple and orders placed immediately. After a long discussion the consensus of opinion was in favour of striking one lac medals and confining distribution to Delhi Province including free distribution in all schools, convents, etc. in Old and New Delhi to all school children. A certain proportion would be reserved for Govt.of India staff for sale at a moderate price (perhaps -/8/-)and a certain proportion would be placed at the disposal of Deputy Commissioner,Delhi, for sale to the public as he requested for this. The proceeds out of the sale to Central Government servants would be credited to Central Revenues and that realised by Deputy Commissioner would be devoted to public educational purposes. With regard to the design, it was suggested that 'AZAD HIND' or its equivalent may be stamped on one side in Hindi, English and Urdu, with the date; the other side carrying the National Flag. The Secretary, W.H.P.Dept.(India), would take steps to obtain higher approval for the design. A Committee to be convened by Deputy Commissioner,Delhi, and including the Superintendent of Education, Delhi,Ajmer & Merwara, and such other members as may be co-opted, would settle the detailed distribution.

8. Flag Hoisting Committee. The proposals of this Committee were reviewed and certain modifications were suggested to the proposed platform by Col. Currie. The route of the Viceregal procession was also discussed and detailed proposals will be finalised on the 30th inst. Mr. Barman was asked to prepare a modified plan of the platform and the seating blocks accordingly. It was agreed that 8000 chairs should be provided and that invitations should issue up to Assistant Secretary's level. Chairs will be earmarked accordingly on the principle that each officer will be allotted upto a maximum of three seats. Police arrangements will be made available by the Senior Superintendent of Police, Delhi, from 10th August onwards. This Committee will also co-opt Mr.Randhawa, who agreed to assist in securing chairs on hire.

9. -

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

9. Invitation Committee. Mr. Raman of the Home Dept. was co-opted as a member and was requested to prepare lists of the Govt. of India officers to be invited to the Flag Hoisting Ceremony by the 30th inst.

10. Publicity. A Publicity Sub-Committee was formed consisting of the following -

Mr. M.A.Hussain, ICS., Dy.Secy., I.& B.Dept.(India).

The P.I.O., Govt. of India, (or A.P.I.O. attached to W.H.P. Dept.)

Mr. B.F.H.B.Tyabji, ICS., Dy.Secy., Constituent Assembly.

Mr. R.P. Barman, S.E., CPWD.

Press Attache to the Viceroy's House.

This Committee would finalise the details for filming of the principal ceremonies as well as press publicity for the arrangements from now onwards. It was generally agreed that the maximum possible accommodation should be allowed to the Press and film units, both in Government House and Constituent Assembly, as well as at the evening functions. Films of the State Drive and other ceremonies should be taken for the World News Reels.

The next meeting of the Celebrations Committee will be held at 3 p.m. on 30th instant in room No. 156, North Block Sect.

11. Copies of this should go to all Members of the Celebrations Committee as well as to all the Secretaries of the Government of India Departments.

H.C. Gupta 29/7/47

(H.C. Gupta)
Secretary - Member,
Celebrations Committee.

To

The Secretary,
Home Department, (India)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(18)

30th July 47

The third meeting of the Celebrations Committee was held at 3 p.m. today, the following attending.-

1. Mr. B.S. Puri, OBE, ISE, C.E., CPWD. (Chairman)
2. Col. D.H. Currie, OBE, MC., DCM., M.S.V.
3. Mr. M.A. Hussain, ICS, Dy. Secy. I. & B. Dept.(Ind.)
4. Mr. B.F.H.B. Tyabji, ICS, Dy.Secy.Const. Assembly.
5. Mr. J.D. Kapadia, ICS, Dy. Secy. I. & S. Dept.(India)
6. Mr. R.P. Barman, ISE, Supg.Eng.CPWD.
7. Rai Sahib A.V.Raman, Asst. Secy. Home Dept.(India)
8. Lala Deshbandhu Gupta, 5, Keeling Rd., New Delhi.
9. Mr. E.U.Damodaran, Dy. Secy., Defence Dept.(India).
10. Sardar Bahadur Bahadur Singh, I, Hanuman Rd. N.Delhi
11. Mr. S.G. Button,Dy.Supdt. of Police, New Delhi.
12. Mr. W. Jffarn, Addl. Supdt. of Police, Delhi.
13. Mr. A. Campbell Johnson, Press Attache to H.E. the Viceroy.
14. Mr. L.R. Sethi, Supdt. of Education, Delhi.
15. Mr. N. Neelakantan, Secretary, Rly. Board.
16. Mr. H.C. Gupta, ICS., Dy. Secy. W.M.P. Dept.

---Secretary - Member.

2. The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed but it was pointed out by Col. Currie that information had been received from Mr. V.P. Menon that 15th morning was considered inauspicious for the swearing-in ceremony. Further enquiries were in progress and it was likely that ~~the~~ the ceremony may be fixed for one minute past mid-night between 14th and 15th August.

3. Lala Deshbandhu Gupta raised the question of the arrangements for the flag hoisting ceremony at the Red Fort. It was provisionally considered after discussion that the timings of different ceremonies might be as follows, if the swearing-in-ceremony came off at mid.night-

15th August- 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.-Ceremonies in the Constituent Assembly.
9.30 a.m. - Flag hoisting at the Red Fort.
10.30 a.m. - Flag hoisting at the New Delhi Municipal Committee.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(19)

4. Lala Deshbandhu Gupta suggested that there should be a march-past by troops or mechanised units in the Red Fort and also that march by troops should be arranged in the city on the 15th morning. Col Currie was rather doubtful if such a crowded programme for troops could be carried through. After discussion it was suggested that Lala Deshbandhu Gupta might take up the question with the Defence Department who in the original meeting at H.M. W.M. & P's house were given the responsibility for Flag Hoisting at the Red Fort.

5. Col Currie gave an outline of the Governor-Gneral's programme on the 15th and it was agreed that he and Mr. Tyabji will settle the details of seating in the Constituent Assembly. It was estimated that for the after-dinner Reception in Government House about 1,000 people would be invited.

6. Flag Hoisting Ceremonies. Mr. Hussain undertook to arrange with the A.I.R. for the provision of Indian orchestra for singing National songs for 10 minutes by the staff parties and girls. Arrangements for loud speakers will have to be made by the C.P.W.D. at Princes Park. A rehersal of the ceremonies at Princes Park will be undertaken by mutual arrangement between C.P.W.D. the Military and Police authorities, whenever Col Currie suggests.

7. Review of Sub-Committee's work -

(i) Flag Hoisting - It was reported that pure Khadi flags were desired for the principal Government buildings and Mr. Barman was asked to arrange accordingly. He undertook to specify the prices and measurements of different kinds of flags within a day or two.

(ii) Mela, Fire Works and sweats. S.B. Bahadur Singh and the Superintendent of Education stated that Rs.15,000/- would be required for distribution of sweats to

P.T.O.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(-20-)

to primary school and childrens' convents and this amount was considered reasonsable on the basis of about -/4/- per child. The sweats should be distributed on the 15th morning. It was re-affirmed that about 70,000 medals will be distributed free to each school student, preferably on the 15th morning, and if they are not received by that time, on the 19th morning, when schools reopen. The proposal to allow installation of some joy-ride wheels, water stalls and other incidental amenities, at a rough estimate of upto Rs.2,000/-, on 15th evening was agreed to.

(iii) Invitations. M.S.V. and Secretary, Constituent Assembly(India) will issue invitations for functions at Viceroy's House and Constituent Assembly respectively, and Home Department's circular to all Departments enquiring names of different grades of officers will form the basis for invitations in respect ofthe Flag Hoisting Ceremony. Full instructions to the guests with regard to the ceremony will be printed on the invitation cards.

It was agreed to that the chairs in Princes Park will be arranged in such a way that rows behind will be progressively slightly higher than the front rows. The necessary brick work will be done by the C.P.W.D.

(iv) It was agreed that an appeal should be made to the general public to have illuminations on private houses on the 15th evening. A Press communique regarding the detailed official arrangements should be issued through the Information and Broadcasting Department over the radio and in the Press as soon as possible.

8. It was decided to convene a small meeting on the 31st inst.at 5 p.m. to ascertain the final timings of the swearing-in ceremonies. Col.Currie, Mr.Tyabji and Mr. Hussain were specially requested to attend this meeting.

(H.C.Gupta).
Member-Secretary,
Celebrations Committee.

L.R.S.
"30.7.47.-99-D".

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

S. No. 12. (F.R.)

We may place an order on M/s. Edde & Co., Ltd. on behalf of the C.C, Coorg. They may be asked to despatch the flags by air so as to reach the C.C., Co before 8th August, 1947. A draft is put up for approval.

28.8.47

2.8.47

Please see that this sent at once

A V Raman
2.8.47

A8(C)

Sl. No - (13) Time,

SNo. 14 (Issue)

S. No. 15

Regarding 'A' below, the Superintendent of Police should obtain details from Private Secretaries to H.Ms. We have none.

The details have already been sent tentatively with a covering letter to C.C. Draft d.o. be put up.

Sd. G.V. Badekar.
28.7.47.

Draft d.o. to C.C., Delhi put up. It is self-explanatory.

Sd. A.V. Raman
31.7.47

Sd. G.V. Badekar
31.7.47

S. No. 16 (Issue)

S. No. 17.

We have already decided to declare the 15th and 16th August, 1947 as a Public Holiday throughout the Dominion of India and arrangements are also being made to celebrate the inauguration of the new Dominion in the most suitable manner. We may in the circumstances acknowledge the letter under consideration as in the draft put up for approval

B.S.R
28.7.47
B/M.S.
29.7.47

Sd. A.V. Raman
30.7.47

S. No. 18 (Issued)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(22)

S.No. 19-23

Nos. 19-22: For information only.

No. 23: Mr. Gupta may be asked to apply to the C., Delhi for the passes. He may be informed as in the draft sent up.

A V Raman
4.8.47

4.8.47

Sl. No 24/Secret

217 - 23

Copy may be circulated in Home Dept. memo should be sent to that Dept for information, if not already done

MW 4/8

S.no 24

Defence Dy.Sec (India) (D6).

Reference Secy's note above.

A copy your letter is placed below and may be forwarded to the Home Dy.Sec (India), with reference to their letter No. 87/47-Public (B), dt. the 29th July 1947.

R.N.V.

4/8

R. N. VASUDEVA
Under Secretary (D6) Tel. 41213

4/8/47

D.2578/47—Pub.(B), 5—8—47

Home Dy.Sec (India).

D.D.no.4197-A/D6 7/8.

Home Dept

We have already circularised the ntf.n in the enclosure to this note. No further

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(24)

action is necessary. D_S(P) may see
for me?

A. V Ramam
5-8-'47

D S(P)

Pub (B)
MR
5/8

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(22) (25)

Immediate

Defence Department.

Subject: INDEPENDENCE DAY - CELEBRATIONS IN PROVINCES.

Will Home Department kindly issue instructions to the Chief Secretaries of Provinces that they could count on the cooperation of the local Military, Naval and Air Force authorities in celebrating Independence Day in a fitting manner?

Parades and other ceremonial appropriate to the occasion and the importance of the stations can be arranged by the Chief Secretaries in consultation with the local Military Commanders who have been instructed by H.E. the Supreme Commander to render all help.

31/7

(J.R.L. SHENOY)
Joint Secretary.

Secy. Home Department.
(Mr. R.N. Bannerjee)

D.D. u/o No. 277-Estab. dt. 31st July 1947.

31/7/47

Following telegram is issued to all chief Secys. I.S.P. & C.C.s:-
(Express Letter & Delhi):-

Reference Home Deptt letter - -
- - - - Local Military Naval
& Air Force authorities have been instructed to render
all assistance in celebration of Independence day
on 15th Augt. and arrangements for parades
etc may kindly be made by civil authorities in direct consultation

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(26) 23

wm local commanders

31/7/47

as (c) Please issue above

Telegram.

A V Raman
31.7.47

A draft express telegram to all the Provincial Governments and chief Commissioners is put up for approval as directed by D.S. (P). In the case of C.C., Delhi a draft express letter is put up for approval. No need to send to DS(C)

Dfa I + II

31.7.47

31.7.47

S. no. 25- Issue. Cor p. 35.

S. no. 26- Issue. Cor p. 36

S. No. 27

I hope this will do. Arrangements for durries can be made by office direct with the C.P.W.D. Officers-in-charge of the seating arrangements.

Sd. R.N. Banerji.
4.8.47.

R.S. Raman tells me that he saw the site on 3rd inst and has made satisfactory ~~att~~ arrangements. This may be filed.

Sd. G.V. Bedekar.,
4.8.47

S No. 28 (F.R.)

S no. 29 (Issued)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(27)

S. Nos. 30 and 31

SNo. 30: Arrangements are being made to celebrate the Independence Day in a fitting manner and general amnesty to Prisoners is also an item in our programme. The letter may be acknowledged as in the draft put up for approval.

SNo. 31: For information only. The Chief Commissioner will no doubt take necessary action in the matter. Poll (I) Section may however see. A draft acknowledgment is put up.

Sd. A. V. Raman
7.8.47.

Secy Poll I
Sd. S.P.M
2.8.47

Intd.
2.8.47

SNos. 32 and 33 (Issued)

SNo. 34.

Please send one.

Sd. A. V. Raman.
5.8.47

SNo. 35 (Issue)

S. No. 36 (F.R.)

Issue telegram below. Express.

Sd. A. V. Raman.
9.8.47.

S. No. 37 (Issued)

As verbally directed by A.S.(C) a draft telegram to C.C., Coorg is submitted.

Sd. A. V. Raman.
7.8.47.

S. No. 38 (Issued)

S. No. 39 (Receipt)

SNo. 40 (Issued)

SNo. 41 (Issued)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

-25-

-28-

Home Departm

S.No.42.

intimate to

We may now inform the W.M.P. Deptt on request about ~~arrangements to be made~~ supply to Indian National Flags and the Deptt is put up.

A V Raman
4.8.47

4/8

BJJS
4/8

AS(C)

Serial No.42.

(In view of the present reference from the W.M.P.Deptt. the o.m. put up above has been withdrawn.)

This may be circulated to officers and the staff separately for information. The requirements intimated by them previously will not be met by this Department. They may kindly make their own arrangements to purchase the flags direct from the Civil Shop in the North Block as stated in the F.R.

5.8.47.

A V Raman
5.8.47

BJJS
5.8.47

BS(C)

MrB
5/8

S.Nos.43-45 (F.R.)

For information only. (A.S. need not be troubled)

20.8.47

BJJS
21.8.47

MrR.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

-29- -28-

Home Department
Public (B).
.....

S.No.1

This may be circulated to officers and the staff separately for information. The requirements intimated by them previously will not be met by this Department. They may kindly make their own arrangements to purchase the flags direct from the Civil Shop in the North Block as stated in the F.R.

Sd. A.V. Raman
5-8-'47.

Poll (E)
Poll (I)
Poll (Estt.)
Poll (Instn.)
Andamans
Pub (B)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(30)

Home Department
Public (B).
.....

S.No.1 - JP

This may be circulated to officers and the staff separately for information. The requirements intimated by them previously will not be met by this Department. They may kindly make their own arrangements to purchase the flags direct from the Civil Shop in the North Block as stated in the F.R.

Sd.A.V. Raman.
5-8-'47

D.S.(S) / D.S.(P.J.) / D.S.(A.N.)

D.2649/47-Pub(B)
Dt. 6.8.47.

Being circulated to Other Officers separately

MMB 6/8

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(31) -28-

Home Department
Public (B).
.....

S.No.1

This may be circulated to officers and the staff separately for information. The requirements intimated by them previously will not be met by this Department. They may kindly make their own arrangements to purchase the flags direct from the Civil Shop in the North Block as stated in the F.R.

Sd. A.V. Raman
5-8-'47.

Estt (S)
Estt (R)
Estt.
Pub (A)
Pub (B)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(32)

29

Immediate

Home Department
Public (B).
.....

S.No.1

This may be circulated to officers and the staff separately for information. The requirements intimated by them previously will not be met by this Department. They may kindly make their own arrangements to purchase the flags direct from the Civil Shop in the North Block as stated in the F.R.

Sd.A.V. Raman.
5-8-'47

Cashier
Confdl.
R+I
R. C.
Receptionist
Steno.
Pub (B)

Public (B)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(33)

Home Department
Public (B).
.....

S.No.1

This may be circulated to officers and the staff separately for information. The requirements intimated by them previously will not be met by this Department. They may kindly make their own arrangements to purchase the flags direct from the Civil Shop in the North Block as stated in the F.R.

Sd. A.V. Raman
5-8-'47.

Appointment
R + R
A + C
P. L. C.
Police & Jails
S. P. E.
Pub (B)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

-39-

Home Department
Public (B).
.....

S.No.1 - 7/7

This may be circulated to officers and the staff separately for information. The requirements intimated by them previously will not be met by this Department. They may kindly make their own arrangements to purchase the flags direct from the Civil Shop in the North Block as stated in the F.R.

Sd.A.N. Raman.
5-8-'47

U.S. (A.N.) 5/8
U.S. (P.J.)
A.S (A) 5/8
A.S (S)
A.S (E) 6/8.
A.S (R) 6/8

Being circulated to the Officers separately.

M.B. 6/8

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(35)

Home Department
Public (B).
.....

S.No.1 JR

This may be circulated to officers and the staff separately for information. The requirements intimated by them previously will not be met by this Department. They may kindly make their own arrangements to purchase the flags direct from the Civil Shop in the North Block as stated in the F.R.

Sd.A.V. Raman.
5-8-'47

J.S.
P.S. to Secy. Me
P.S. to H.M. 6-8-47
O.S.D. 12.8.47

Circulated to other Officers separately.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(36)

-33-

S. Nos. 48-55 (P.R)

Nos. 48-52: For information only.

S.No. 53: File. D.C. will take action

Sd. G.V. Bedekar.
12.8.47.

S.No. 54: A limited number of ~~few~~ Independence medals were struck by us for local use only. We may inform the Head Master, M.L.M. High School that medals cannot be supplied ~~from~~ by this Deptt. ~~and that he should make local arrangements for the same.~~ A draft is sent up accordingly.

S.No. 55: For information only.

A.V. Laman
24.8.47

22.8.47
Bms
22/8
BJ(C)

Sl. No 56 (Issued)

S.Nos. 57 and 58

For information only. (A.S. has already seen and need not be troubled again)

1.9.47

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

From:-

(37)

HINDUSTAN TIMES. Dated 9th August 1947.

India Flag Alone To Fly In Berar

NAGPUR, Aug. 8.—It is authoritatively learned that in reply to the representations made by the Government of the C.P. and Berar, the Home Department of the Government of India has informed them that only the National Flag of the Indian Union will fly on Government buildings in Berar on August 15 on the occasion of the Independence Day celebrations and that both the Union Jack and the Nizam's Flag will be conspicuous by their absence.—A.P.I.

D. 2988/47-Pub.B.
22-8-47

Political (Internal).

Cut out and send to Public section the passage in last column of page 1.

Sd/- G.V.Bedekar.
11/8/47.

Pub(B)Sec
11/8

No action. May be filed.

20.8.47

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(38)

(WORKS, MINES & POWER DEPARTMENT - INDIA)

Proceedings of the Second meeting of the Celebrations Committee held on the 28th July 1947 in room No.156 (of Mr. Puri, C.E.,CPWD) North Block Sect.,New Delhi.

Present

1. Mr. B.S.Puri, OBE., ISE., Chief Engineer,Central Public Works Dept. - Chairman.
2. Mr. D.L.Mazumdar, ICS., Secretary to the Govt.of India, Works,Mines & Power Department.
3. Col. D.H.Currie,OBE.,MC.,DCM., Mily.Secy.to H.E. the Viceroy.
4. Col. H.L.Currie, A.G.'s Branch, GHQ(India).
5. Mr. M.S.Randhawa, ICS.,Deputy Commissioner,Delhi.
6. Mr. D.C.Lal, I.P., Senior Supdt.of Police,Delhi.
7. Mr. E.U.Damodaran, Deputy Secretary,Defence Dept.(India).
8. Major B. Pritam Singh, Chief Administrative Officer,GHQ(India).
9. Mr. M.A.Hussain,ICS., Dy. Secy.,I.& B.Dept.(India).
10. Mr.B.F.H.B.Tyabji,ICS.,Dy. Secy., Constituent Assembly.
11. Mr. J.D.Kapadia,ICS., Dy.Secy.,I.& S.Dept.(India).
12. Mr. T.P.Gateley,MBE.,Chairman,Central Electrical & Mechanical Works Board, Delhi.
13. Mr. L.R.Sethi, Superintendent of Education,Delhi,Ajmer & Merwara, Delhi.
14. Mr. P.M.Agerwala, District Manager, Delhi Telephones.
15. Mr.Y.K.Puri,ICS., Under Secretary, Finance Dept.(India).
16. Mr.D.R.Bahl, Administrative Officer, C.P.W.D.
17. Mr. G.R.Deolalikar, Architect, C.P.W.D.
18. Rao Sahib A.V. Raman,Assistant Secretary,Home Dept.(India).
19. Rai Sahib Savitri Prasada, PCS., P.A.to Dy.Commr.,Delhi.
20. Sardar Bahadur Bahadur Singh.
21. Mr. H.C.Gupta,ICS.,Dy.Secy.,WMP Dept.(India) - Member-Secy.
22. Mr. R.P.Barman, I.SE.,S.E., Central P. W.D.

H.E. the Viceroy's Military Secretary read out a statement about the programme connected with the Swearing-in ceremony at the Government House, the State Drive to Constituent Assembly, and functions in the Constituent Assembly, and the Flag hoisting ceremony in the evening at Princes -

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

Princes Park, and suggested the timings of the various ceremonies as well as of the fire works and the State Banquet and reception at Government House. Provisional agreement was arrived at fixing 9.30 a.m. for commencement of the ceremony at the Government House and 11.30 a.m. at the Constituent Assembly Hall, and Col.Currie undertook to give a detailed programme at the next meeting on the 30th inst.

2. It was gathered that the Home Dept. desired the function at the Government House to be attended by as many people as possible. It was provisionally agreed that officers up to the rank of Assistant Secretary would be invited, and that Mr.Tyabji would ascertain from the President of the Constituent Assembly whether members of that Assembly would like to attend. In that event officers' wives would be omitted. The Deputy Commissioner, Delhi, undertook to furnish the names of officers to be invited from the Delhi Administration. There would be 780 seats in the Darbar Hall, of which 80 would provisionally be allotted to the Press, 300 to the Constituent Assembly members and 400 to officials.

3. With regard to the hoisting of the National Flags, it was the sense of the Committee that it should be done simultaneously at about 11-30 a.m. as soon as the reply to Governor-General's speech ended and when the guns started firing. The C.P.W.D. would hoist the flags on the Council House also on that day. The consensus of opinion also favoured the flag on the Red Fort and Government House to be hoisted simultaneously. Col.Currie, H.E. Mily.Secy. to the Viceroy was against the proposal of the Delhi Flying Club to shower flowers from the air on the State procession.

4. With regard to the evening celebrations, it was expected that a fly-past by a squadron of the Indian Air Force could be arranged, but the programme was so crowded and time so short that mass bands and a night tatoo would be impracticable. After the National Flag had been unfurled at about 6-30 p.m. suitable time should be found for singing Indian National songs like "Bande Matram", "Jhanda Uchcha Rahe Hamara", "Jan Ginn Man",etc. The fire works will be at 7-45 p.m.; State Banquet at 8-45 p.m. and

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

and Reception at 10 p.m. Exact timings and full details are expected to be known on the 30th inst. from Col.Currie,M.S.to H.E. the Viceroy.

5. National Flags. As supplies are not expected to be available before the 5th August, it was suggested that E.A. & C.R. Dept. may send out sample flags to Ambassies overseas, who might make local arrangements for themselves. Departmental requisitions have not been received so far in many instances and a second circular letter will go out indicating to them the sizes and prices as soon as these are finalised. For residential buildings and for Government servants generally, flags will be on sale and it is necessary that the requirements of different departments should be known as early as possible. The proposal to print 2 lacs of miniature paper flags, was abandoned but private trade should be informed through suitable channel (P.I.O.) so that they may cater to public demand in this respect.The sizes proposed now are - 12' X 6'; 6' X 4'; 3' X 2' and 9" X 6". All these will be of cotton cloth, except those for Constituent Assembly Hall and Flag Hoisting Ceremony in Princes Park where they should be of pure hand-spun silk or pure hand-spun khadi. Mr. Barman, S.E.,CPWD., was requested to undertake all the arrangements in connection with the Flags.

6. Mela and Fire works. The plans of this Committee were reviewed and the expenditure was roughly estimated as follows -

(i) Fire works - Rs.20,000/-; to be displayed near Central Vista on the 15th evening and near Red Fort on the 16th evening. These would be on a very large scale. It was not considered advisable to have a large number of small displays.

(ii) Sweats to school children - Rs.10,000/-.

The proposed 'Mela' was abandoned in view of the crowded programme. The Superintendent of Education, Delhi, and some Heads of Educational Institutions may be co-opted by this Committee to assist in distribution of sweets in schools, either on 14th or 19th August.

7. Independence Medals. Mr. Gupta stated that he had discussed with the Mint Master, Bombay, a proposal for striking Independence Medals -

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(91)

-38-

Medals within the short time at our disposal and had ascertained that it would be possible, provided some standard size was adopted and the design was fairly simple and orders placed immediately. After a long discussion the consensus of opinion was in favour of striking one lac medals and confining distribution to Delhi Province including free distribution in all schools, convents, etc. in Old and New Delhi to all school children. A certain proportion would be reserved for Govt.of India staff for sale at a moderate price (perhaps -/8/-)and a certain proportion would be placed at the disposal of Deputy Commissioner,Delhi, for sale to the public as he requested for this. The proceeds out of the sale to Central Government servants would be credited to Central Revenues and that realised by Deputy Commissioner would be devoted to public educational purposes. With regard to the design, it was suggested that 'AZAD HIND' or its equivalent may be stamped on one side in Hindi, English and Urdu, with the date; the other side carrying the National Flag. The Secretary, F.&P.Dept.(India), would take steps to obtain higher approval for the design. A Committee to be convened by Deputy Commissioner,Delhi, and including the Superintendent of Education, Delhi,Ajmer & Merwara, and such other members as may be co-opted, would settle the detailed distribution.

8. Flag Hoisting Committee. The proposals of this Committee were reviewed and certain modifications were suggested to the proposed platform by Col. Currie. The route of the Viceregal procession was also discussed and detailed proposals will be finalised on the 30th inst. Mr. Barman was asked to prepare a modified plan of the platform and the seating blocks accordingly. It was agreed that 8000 chairs should be provided and that invitations should issue up to Assistant Secretary's level. Chairs will be earmarked accordingly on the principle that each officer will be allotted upto a maximum of three seats. Police arrangements will be made available by the Senior Superintendent of Police, Delhi, from 10th August onwards. This Committee will also co-opt Mr.Randhawa, who agreed to assist in securing chairs on hire.

9. -

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

9. Invitation Committee. Mr. Raman of the Home Dept. was co-opted as a member and was requested to prepare lists of the Govt.of India officers to be invited to the Flag Hoisting Ceremony by the 30th inst.

10. Publicity. A Publicity Sub-Committee was formed consisting of the following -

Mr. M.A.Hussain,ICS.,Dy.Secy.,I.& B.Dept.(India).

The P.I.O., Govt. of India, (or A.P.I.O. attached to W.&P. Dept.)

Mr. B.F.H.B.Tyabji,ICS.,Dy.Secy.,Constituent Assembly.

Mr. R.P. Barman, S.E., CPWD.

Press Attache to the Viceroy's House.

This Committee would finalise the details for filming of the principal ceremonies as well as press publicity for the arrangements from now onwards. It was generally agreed that the maximum possible accommodation should be allowed to the Press and film units, both in Government House and Constituent Assembly, as well as at the evening functions. Films of the State Drive and other ceremonies should be taken for the World News Reels.

The next meeting of the Celebrations Committee will be held at 3 p.m. on 30th instant in room No. 156, North Block Sect. 11. Copies of this should go to all Members of the Celebrations Committee as well as to all the Secretaries of the Government of India Departments.

H.C. Gupta 29/7/47

(H.C. Gupta)
Secretary - Member,
Celebrations Committee.

Tel: 2832
Mr Barman 73-20

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

The third meeting of the Celebrations Committee was held at 3 p.m. today, the following attending.-

1. Mr. B.S. Puri, OBE, ISE, C.E., CPWD. (Chairman)
2. Col. D.H. Currie, OBE, MC., DCM., M.S.V.
3. Mr. M.A. Hussain, ICS, Dy. Secy. I. & B. Dept.(Ind.)
4. Mr. B.F.H.B. Tyabji, ICS, Dy.Secy.Const. Assembly.
5. Mr. J.D. Kapadia, ICS, Dy. Secy. I. & S. Dept.(India)
6. Mr. R.P. Barman, ISE, Supg.Eng.CPWD.
7. Rai Sahib A.V.Raman, Asst. Secy. Home Dept.(India)
8. Lala Deshbandhu Gupta, 5, Keeling Rd., New Delhi.
9. Mr. E.U.Damodaran, Dy. Secy., Defence Dept.(India).
10. Sardar Bahadur Bahadur Singh, I, Hanuman Rd. N.Delhi
11. Mr. S.G. Button,Dy.Supdt. of Police, New Delhi.
12. Mr. W. Jffarn, Addl. Supdt. of Police, Delhi.
13. Mr. A. Campbell Johnson, Press Attache to H.E. the Viceroy.
14. Mr. L.R. Sethi, Supdt. of Education, Delhi.
15. Mr. N. Neelakantan, Secretary, Rly. Board.
16. Mr. H.C. Gupta, ICS., Dy. Secy. W.M.P. Dept.

---Secretary - Member.

2. The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed but it was pointed out by Col. Currie that information had been received from Mr. V.P. Menon that 15th morning was considered inauspicious for the swearing-in ceremony. Further enquiries were in progress and it was likely that the ceremony may be fixed for one minute past mid-night between 14th and 15th August.

3. Lala Deshbandhu Gupta raised the question of the arrangements for the flag hoisting ceremony at the Red Fort. It was provisionally considered after discussion that the timings of different ceremonies might be as follows, if the swearing-in-ceremony came off at mid-night-

15th August- 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.-Ceremonies in the Constituent Assembly.
9.30 a.m. - Flag hoisting at the Red Fort.
10.30 a.m. - Flag hoisting at the New Delhi Municipal Committee.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(44)

4. Lala Deshbandhu Gupta suggested that there should be a march-past by troops or mechanised units in the Red Rort and also that march by troops should be arranged in the city on the 15th morning. Col Currie was rather doubtful if such a crowded programme for troops could be carried through. After discussion it was suggested that Lala Deshbandhu Gupta might take up the question with the Defence Department who in the original meeting at H.M. W.M. & P's house were given the responsibility for Flag Hoisting at the Red Fort.

5. Col Currie gave an outline of the Governor-Gneral's programme on the 15th and it was agreed that he and Mr. Tyabji will settle the details of seating in the Constituent Assembly. It was estimated that for the after-dinner Reception in Government House about 1,000 people would be invited.

6. Flag Hoisting Ceremonies. Mr. Hussain undertook to arrange with the A.I.R. for the provision of Indian orchestra for singing National songs for 10 minutes by the staff parties and girls. Arrangements for loud speakers will have to be made by the C.P.W.D. at Princes Park. A rehersal of the ceremonies at Princes Park will be undertaken by mutual arrangement between C.P.W.D. the Military and Police authorities, whenever Col Currie suggests.

7. Review of Sub-Committee's work -

(i) Flag Hoisting - It was reported that pure Khadi flags were desired for the principal Government buildings and Mr. Barman was asked to arrange accordingly. He undertook to specify the prices and measurements of different kinds of flags within a day or two.

(ii) Mela, Fire Works and sweats. S.B. Bahadur Singh and the Superintendent of Education stated that Rs.15,000/- would be required for distribution of sweats to

P.T.O.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(45)

to primary school and childrens' convents and this amount was considered reasonsable on the basis of about -/4/- per child. The sweats should be distributed on the 15th morning. It was re-affirmed that about 70,000 medals will be distributed free to each school student, preferably on the 15th morning, and if they are not received by that time, on the 19th morning, when schools reopen. The proposal to allow installation of some joy-ride wheels, water stalls and other incidental amenities, at a rough estimate of upto Rs.2,000/-, on 15th evening was agreed to.

(iii) Invitations. M.S.V. and Secretary, Constituent Assembly(India) will issue invitations for functions at Viceroy's House and Constituent Assembly respectively, and Home Department's circular to all Departments enquiring names of different grades of officers will form the basis for invitations in respect ofthe Flag Hoisting Ceremony. Full instructions to the guests with regard to the ceremony will be printed on the invitation cards.

It was agreed to that the chairs in Princes Park will be arranged in such a way that rows behind will be progressively slightly higher than the front rows. The necessary brick work will be done by the C.P.W.D.

(iv) It was agreed that an appeal should be made to the general public to have illuminations on private houses on the 15th evening. A Press communique regarding the detailed official arrangements should be issued through the Information and Broadcasting Department over the radio and in the Press as soon as possible.

8. It was decided to convene a small meeting on the 31st inst.at 5 p.m. to ascertain the final timings of the swearing-in ceremonies. Col.Currie,Mr.Tyabji and Mr. Hussain were specially requested to attend this meeting.

(H.C.Gupta).
Member-Secretary,
Celebrations Committee.

L.R.S.
"30.7.47.-99-D".

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

-63- (46) A.V. Rewan Sll. Home Dept

Government of India,
Works, Mines & Power Department.

...

Minutes of the 4th meeting of the Celebrations Committee held on the 31st July 1947. The following were present -

1. Mr. B.S.Puri, OBR., ISE.,
   Chief Engineer, Central Public Works Dept.- Chairman.
2. Col. D.H.Currie, OBE., MC., DCM.,
   M.S.V.
3. Mr.B.F.H.B.Tyabji, ICS., Deputy Secretary,
   Constituent Assembly (India).
4. Mr.A.Campbell Johnson, Press Attache to H.E.the Viceroy.
5. Mr. S.G.Button, Dy.Supt.of Police, New Delhi.
6. Mr. W.Jffarn, Addl.Supt.of Police, Delhi.
7. Mr. H.C.Gupta, ICS., Deputy Secretary, WMP Dept.,
8. Mr. R.P.Barman, ISE., S.E., CPWD, Secretary-Member.

2. The programme of celebrations was finalised and a copy thereof is attached herewith.

3. It was learnt that the flag hoisting ceremony being arranged by the Delhi Provincial Congress Committee at the Red Fort will take place on the 16th August and not on the 15th as previously contemplated. This was noted.

4. It was understood that Members of the Constituent Assembly will not be present at the swearing-in ceremony. It would, therefore, be possible to have more guests and officers' wives will be included, both among those invited to Government House and to Constituent Assembly. The final detailed programme of timings and ceremonies is shortly expected from Col.Currie and Secretary, Constituent Assembly, after their joint consultation and inspection of the Assembly Chamber tomorrow.

5. It was mentioned that a proposal had been received for the distribution of ~~Indian~~ Independence Medals with tricolour ribbon to all serving troops on the Independence Day. It was considered that both this suggestion and the proposal to have a route march of troops through Delhi on the 15th should be referred to the Defence Department for such action as they may consider suitable.

6. Mr. Gupta stated that he had taken up the proposal for the provision of free cinema shows to school students

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

students on the 15th and 16th inst. with the Managing Directors of Cinema houses in Delhi. This was noted with satisfaction.

7. A telegram from the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, was placed before the Committee. It was decided to send them a copy of programme of our celebrations. Orders regarding holiday must have issued from Home Dept., but this will be checked up.

8. A proposal has been received for the reservation of one block at the Flag Hoisting Ceremony for subordinate staff of the Govt. of India including clerks, etc. No chairs need be provided in this block. It is also necessary to keep in reserve a fairly large number of seats for last minute requests from important sources. Mr. Burman will please take necessary action on these proposals.

9. Information was received from the Secretary, WMP Dept., that arrangements have been made for illumination of the Qutab Minar on the 15th and 16th evening. This was noted.

10. Proper estimates and accounts of expenditure are to be maintained by Mr. Barman. The estimate should be sent to W.M.P.Dept. by the 5th August 1947 for sanction.

31/7

(H.C.Gupta)
Secretary,
Independence Day Celebrations Committee.

New Delhi,
31.7.47.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(48)

PRESS NOTE ISSUED BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FOR PROPOSING AND ARRANGING THE CEREMONIES CONNECTED WITH THE TRANSFER OF POWER.

I. PRELIMINARY.

The Constituent Assembly will hold a Special Meeting at 11-30 P.M. on the 14th August 1947. At midnight the House will elect its leader who will forthwith convey to His Excellency at his reisence the Constituent Assembly's wishes regarding the appointment of the Governor-General and the Ministers of the Dominion Cabinet.

II. SWEARING IN.

The ceremony will commence at 8-30 A.M. on the 15th August 1947 when the Governor-General will be sworn in by the Chief Justice and the Prime Minister and his Cabinet will be sworn in by the Governor-General. Immediately after the ceremony, the guests (other than Ministers) who are due to attend the ceremony at the Constituent Assembly, will leave.

At 9-40 A.M. the procession from Government House will leave from the Durbar Hall steps, when the Ministers will drive to the Constituent Assembly through the main gate.

At 9-50 A.M. Their Excellencies will leave Government House in the State Coach escorted by the Governor-General's Bodyguard arriving at the Constituent Assembly at 9-55.

III. CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY.

His Excellency will be received by a Guard of Honour at the Constituent Assembly and will take a Royal Salute, after which Their Excellencies will be met by the President of the Constituent Assembly and conducted to their seats.

His Excellency will address the Constituent Assembly and the President will reply.

At the conclusion of the President's reply, a Salute of 31 guns will be fired and the National Flag will be unfurled on the Assembly Building and all other public buildings.

At 10-35 A.M. Their Excellencies will leave the Assembly and will drive in State back to the Government House.

IV.----------

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(99)

-2-

IV. FLAG CEREMONY

At 6 p.m. Their Excellencies, escorted by the Governor General's Bodyguard, will leave Government House in the State carriage for Princes Park near Memorial Arch and will be met by the Prime Minister and G.O.C. (India). The troops on parade will be formed in a hollow square with Guards of Honour of the RIN, IA and RIAF in the centre with bands in attendance.

His Excellency will take a Royal Salute and inspect the troops, after which he will return to the saluting base facing the Flagstaff.

The National Flag will then be unfurled on which there will be a Royal Salute including a salute of 31 guns.

The troops will then March Past, His Excellency taking post at the Flagstaff. The March Past will be followed by a Fly Past by RIAF who will dip in salute.

At the conclusion of the Parade at about 6-45 P.M., Their Excellencies will return in State to the Government House.

V. EVENING CEREMONIES

Illumination and floodlighting of principal public buildings in Delhi, War Memorial Arch, the fountains and the Qutab will be done at 7 P.M.

At 7-45 P.M. there will be a display of fireworks at the western end of the Central Vista near the Great Place.

There will be an official Dinner at Government House at about 8-45 P.M. followed by a Reception at 10-15 P.M.

VI. OTHER CELEBRATIONS

Besides the above official ceremonies, arrangements are being made for free distribution of sweets and specially designed Independence Medals (the National Flag on one side and "Jai Hind" with date inscribed on the reverse) to all school students on the occasion.

VII. EVENING CEREMONIES ON 16TH AUGUST.

Illumination and flood-lighting of principal public buildings in Delhi, War Memorial Arch, the fountains and the Qutab will be done at 7 p.m.

There will be fire works on a large scale near the Red Fort.

Note:

The timings given are approximate and are subject to minor alterations. Further details will be announced from time to time.

-1-8-47

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

A.V. Ramam 24.

-50-

Minutes of the Fifth meeting of the Celebrations Committee held on the 5th August 1947 at 5 p.m. The following attended-

****

1. Mr. B.S.Puri,OBE.,ISE., Chief Engineer,C.P.W.D.(Chairman).
2. Mr. Y.K.Puri,ICS., Deputy Secretary Finance Department.
3. Mr. H.C.Gupta,ICS., Deputy Secretary,W.M.P.Dept.(Secretary).
4. Mr. L.R.Sethi, Superintendent of Education,Delhi.
5. Mr.Robey,Elect.Engineer,C.P.W.D.
6. Sardar Bahadur Bahadur Singh.

Khan Bahadur Sh.Habubur Rahman, OBE., President,Delhi Municipal Committee, Lala Deshbandhu Gupta and a representative of Durala Sugar Mills were also present by a special invitation.

2. Sweets. After a discussion it was decided that it would be more convenient and practicable to distribute packets of toffees and lemon-drops and lozenges - 24 numbers in each packet - to school students rather than Indian sweets, specially as it was reported that adequate sugar and 'Beaan' would not be available. These packets would be marked with National Flag and "Jai Hind" in Hindi and Urdu. 70,000 of these would be given to the Superintendent of Education, Mr. Sethi, who would arrange to get them direct at his office and arrange for disctibution to all schools, Convents,etc. in Old and New Delhi on 15th morning.

3. Medals. After discussion it was considered that the following arrangements would be most appropriate for distribution of Independence Medals -

70,000 medals to be sent by C.P.W.D. to the Office of the Superintendent of Education for free distribution to all school students in all schools and Convents,etc. in Old and New Delhi and in Delhi Province,

20,000 to be sold to the Chief Commissioner,Delhi, for Rs. 5000/- in lump. He may kindly make arrangements for

collecting -------

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

collecting them on 14th morning from Chief Engineers' C.P.W.D.'s Office and disposing of them.

10,000 to be sold to Central Government servants at -/8/- each through the Civil Grocery Shop, North Block Sectt.

4. Fire works. Sardar Bahadur Bahadur Singh and the President, Delhi Municipal Committee, stated that the estimate for fire works at the Great Place and Red Fort together stood at Rs.7,500/- approximately. The responsibility for the work will lie with the Delhi Provincial Celebrations Committee, of which the Chief Commissioner is the President-in-Chief and Khan Bahadur Habibur Raman is Chairman. A detailed estimate should be sent to this Department by the 9th inst. for sanction.

5. Flood lighting. Mr. Robey stated, in the absence of Mr. Gateley, that the estimate stood at Rs.25,000/-. It was pointed out by Mr. Gupta, and generally felt by the Committee, that the estimate was much too high and needed close checking, specially as a lost of expenditure was included for replacement of missing parts, holders, switches, etc. in the C.P.W.D. equipment. After discussion it was also decided that the principal gate of the Red Fort and Kashmiree Gate, Ajmeree Gate and Delhi Gate, should also be either flood- lit or otherwise decorated with multi-colour lights or illuminated flags. Mr. Gateley is requested to make necessary arrangements in consultation with Mr. Barman.

6. Feeding of poor. Mr. Gupta informed the Committee of a request received from the Delhi Provincial Celebrations Committee for Rs.5000/- towards feeding the poor and orphans, on 15th August morning. The Committee agreed that the idea needed encouragement and that Rs.5000/- was reasonable as a donation from Central Government for the purpose, This may be included in the estimates.

7. It was requested on behalf of the Delhi Provincial Celebrations Committee that the C.P.W.D. should also undertake

the ----------

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

-69-

(52)

the arrangements of barricading, etc., to be put up at the Red Fort for the Flag Hoisting Ceremony on the 16th morning. This was agreed to and Messrs.Puri,Barman,Deshbandhu Gupta and Habibur Rahman arranged to visit the site on the 6th morning.

8. It was considered that I.& B.Department should make suitable arrangements for giving continuous publicity through the Press and Radio to all the arrangements and timings for the celebrations being fixed up by different public bodies.

9. President Delhi Provincial Celebrations Committee

read ----------

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

53

read out is programme and was requested to send us a copy of it.

(H.C.Gupta).
Secretary, Independence,
Day Celebrations Committee.

L.R.S.
"7.8.47-50-D".

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

-(54)

Minutes of the 6th meeting of the Celebrations Committee held on 11th August 1947./ The following attended -

1. Mr. B.S. Puri, OBE, ISE, C.E. CPWD - (Chairman)
2. Khan Bahadur Sh.Habibur Rahman, President, Delhi Municipal Committee.
3. Col. D.H. Currie, CBE, MC, DCM, MSV.
4. Mr. B.F.H.B. Tyabji, ICS, Dy. Secy. Const. Assembly of India.
5. Mr. Y.K. Puri, Dy. Secy., Fin. Dept. (India)
6. Lala Deshbandhu Gupta.
7. Mr. H.C. Gupta, ICS, Dy. Secretary, W.M.P. Dept. (India)

Flood lighting. After discussion it was decided to ask Mr. Gateley to arrange for as much flood lighting as possible on the Council Chamber and the Constituent Assembly Hall on the night of 14-15th August. It was appreciated that there is lack of equipment, but the best possible arrangements should be made in addition to lighting of car parks, verandahs and corridors.

2. Independence Medals. A sample of the medal was seen and appreciated and it was resolved to send a letter of thanks to Major Deane, Mint Master, Bombay, for the promptitude with which the work has been completed. It was decided to present members of the diplomatic corps with these medals at the India Gate ceremony from the Central Govt. quota.

3. India Gate ceremony invitations. It was decided to attach a copy of the programme with the invitations issued to each officer. After discussion it was decided that the quota of the Delhi Provincial administration would be increased to 1000 from 800 seats. It was not found possible to go beyond this figure.

4. Sweets. The letter from the Chairman, Delhi Municipality, for an extra 5,000 packets of sweets for unaided schools was considered and Supt. of Education.....

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(55)

52

Education was consulted. It was noted that Lala Deshbandhu Gupta has already informed the suppliers to arrange for an extra 5,000 packets and this was concurred in.

5. Flag Hoisting. The letter from the Estate Officer seeking the Committee's concurrence to flag hoisting on Estate Office by some invited guest was considered and it was felt that since in the interest of uniformity of procedure, the Central Public Works Dept. has already been instructed to hoist flags on all Government buildings, the same procedure had better apply to Estate Office. A copy of the proceedings may be sent to the Estate Officer for information.

6. Grant for Red Fort function. At the request of the Delhi Provincial Celebrations Committee it was agreed that up to Rs. 4,000/- could be made available for expenses after checking of accounts and necessary certificates by the Financial Adviser, Delhi Province.

7. In pursuance of a request from the Director of Health Delhi Provincial (Col. Fraser), it was decided that up to Rs. 1500/- could be spent on special feeding of indoor patients in all the Delhi Hospitals on 15th August. In the first instance, the extra expenses may be debited to the hospital accounts and Col. Fraser would be responsible for detailed distribution and subsequent proposals for recouping the amount.

8. Illumination grants. An expediture of Rs. 1,000/- was agreed to for Central Government buildings illuminations in Bombay and Rs. 500/- in Ajmer.

9. The Finance Department concurrence of previous estimates was noted.

(H.C. Gupta)
Secretary, Celetrations Committee

Copy....

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

- 53 -

(56)

-3-

Copy forwarded to Estate Officer, with reference to his letter regarding flag hoisting ceremony on Estate Office/Col.Fraser/All who attended/Mr. Gately/ Mr. Sethi.

(H.C. Gupta)
Secretary, Celebrations Committee.

SLG
11.8.47-D-99"

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

54

(57)

DETAIL SEATING OF EACH BLOCK

281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300
280	279	278	277	276	275	274	273	272	271	270	269	268	267	266	265	264	263	262	261
241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260
240	239	238	237	236	235	234	233	232	231	230	229	228	227	226	225	224	223	222	221
201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220
200	199	198	197	196	195	194	193	192	191	190	189	188	187	186	185	184	183	182	181
161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180
160	159	158	157	156	155	154	153	152	151	150	149	148	147	146	145	144	143	142	141
121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140
120	119	118	117	116	115	114	113	112	111	110	109	108	107	106	105	104	103	102	101
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
80	79	78	77	76	75	74	73	72	71	70	69	68	67	66	65	64	63	62	61
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
40	39	38	37	36	35	34	33	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

-58- -55

IMMEDIATE

WORKS, MINES & POWER DEPARTMENT(INDIA)

.....

Reference Home Dept. U.O. No.122/47-Pub(B) dated 24.7.47.

A copy of the minutes of the Celebrations Sub-Committee's meeting held on the 24th July 1947 is enclosed herewith for information.

It is requested that the name of the Home Dept. representative (preferably of Deputy Secretary's status) may be communicated to this Department immediately. The next meeting of the Sub-Committee will be held at 3 p.m. on Monday the 28th July '47 in room No. 156, First Floor, North Block.

This is also in continuation of this Department's d.o.No.S.255/47 dated the 22nd July to Mr. Vidya Shank, ICS., P.S. to H.M.Home(India), with which was enclosed a copy of the minutes of an informal meeting held under the chairmanship of H.M.,WMP.

(H.C.Gupta)
Deputy Secretary,
25.7.47.

D.2382/47-Pub(B)
Dt.26-7-47.

Home Dept.(India) - Mr.G.B.Bedekar.
W.M.P.Dept.U.O.No. Adm. 17(F), dt. 25.7.47.

Issued 26/7/47

Home Department Public(B), India.

Reference W.M.P. Department (India) U.O. No. Admn 17(F) dated the 25th July, 1947.

I am instructed to say that it is not possible to spare any of the Deputy Secretaries of the Department to the celebrations Sub-Committee and that I should represent the Home Department.

26/7
Assistant Secretary.

W.M.P. Department (India) (Mr. H.C. Gupta).
Home Department (India), U.O.No. 2382/47-Pub(B) Dt. 26/7

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

Minutes of the first meeting of the Celebrations Sub-Committee held on the 24th July 1947.

(54)

PRESENT :

1. Mr.B.S. Puri, OBE,ISE, Chief Engineer,C.P.W.D. (Convener)
2. Col. D.H. Currie, CIE,CBE,MC, Military Secretary to H.E. the Viceroy.
3. Mr. B.F.H.B. Tyabji, I.C.S., Deputy Secretary, Constituent Assembly.
4. Mr. T.P. Gateley, M.B.E., Superintending Engineer, Central P.W.D.
5. Mr. S. Neelakantam, M.B.E., Deputy Secretary, W.M.P. Department. (Member-Secretary).

Sardar Bahadur Bahadur Singh and Messrs. R.P. Barman,ISE and D.R. Bahl were also present by invitation.

2. The place where the swearing-in ceremony should be held was at first considered. Mr.Tyabji stated that the President of the Assembly would prefer that the first formal function of His Excellency on the 15th August should be an address to the Members of the Constituent Assembly as a representative of the British Government or H.M. the King but not as Governor General; and that the swearing-in ceremony might follow in the Constituent Assembly Hall itself. Col. Currie was requested to take up the matter with the appropriate authorities and intimate where the swearing-in ceremony is finally decided to be held. In the event of the ceremony being held in the Constituent Assembly Hall, he (Col. Currie) was requested to decide in consultation with the President of the Constituent Assembly and Home Department in what room of the Council Chamber the ceremony is to be held.

3. Mr.Tyabji suggested the Flag Salutation ceremony to be held in the premises of the Irwin Stadium. Some members expressed a doubt if the premises could accommodate the principal guests and officials and the general public of about 50,000 to 100,000. The members of the Sub-Committee inspected the Irwin Stadium and other grounds near the War Memorial Arch and considered the Princes Place adjoining the King Edward Statue to be most suitable.

4 ... ...

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

4. It was suggested by Mr.Tyabji that souvenirs made of metal or rosette should be got prepared and sold on a fairly large scale on that day. Sardar Bahadur Bahadur Singh was requested to examine and offer his views on the feasibility of the proposal.

5. In para 2(d) of the minutes of the meeting held on the 21st July 1947 it was stated that H.E. would hoist the National Flag to the accompaniment of the firing of guns. Col. Currie stated that it was not customary for H.E. to do it, and that such work could be entrusted to some one else. Mr.Puri was requested to clear up this point in consultation with Home Department.

6. When the Union Jack is hauled down and Royal Salute is given, the band would play 'God Save the King'. It was considered appropriate for the band to play the national anthem on the hoisting of the National Flag. Mr.Puri was requested to obtain the opinion of the higher authorities.

7. It was estimated that 70 flags of the size of 12' x 6' would be required immediately for their being hoisted on Government buildings and other public places. Mr.Tyabji promised to send a sample of flag to Mr.Puri. Mr.Barman was asked to take immediate steps for the manufacture of these flags. It was also agreed that the Defence Department should make arrangements for the flying of the National Flag on the Red Fort on the 15th of August 1947.

8. There was a suggestion whether a military talloo could be held and mass bands played on the conclusion of the actual flag-hoisting ceremony. Col. D.H. Currie was requested to examine the possibility of holding them and send a note early to the Sub-Committee.

9. There was then general discussion about the detailed arrangements to be made in connection with the celebrations and the following committees were appointed

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

-58-

(61)

to attend to different items of work :-

I. Constituent Assembly Ceremony Committee :

1. Mr.H.V.R. Iengar,CIE, ICS (Convener)
2. Mr.B.S. Puri, OBE, ISE
3. Mr.B.F.H.B. Tyabji, ICS
4. Mr.K.V. Padmanabhan
5. Mr.T.P. Gateley, M.B.E.
6. Mr. R.P. Barman, I.S.E.

II. Military and Viceregal Arrangements Committee

1. Col. D.H. Currie, CIE,CBE,MC (Convener) with such other members coopted by him from the Armed Forces.
2. Mr.B.S. Puri, OBE, ISE
3. Mr.R.P. Barman, ISE
4. Mr.T.P. Gateley, MBE
5. Senior Superintendent of Police, Delhi

III. Flag Hoisting Committee

1. Mr.R.P. Barman, I.S.E. (Convener)
2. Col. D.H. Currie, CIE, CBE, MC
3. Senior Superintendent of Police,Delhi
4. Mrs A.P. Lancaster

IV. Mela and Fire Works Committee

1. Sardar Bahadur Bahadur Singh (Convener)
2. Mr.B.S. Puri, OBE,ISE
3. Deputy Commissioner
4. Senior Superintendent of Police,Delhi
5. Mr. D.R. Bahl

V. Invitation Committee

Mr.B.B. Puri with such other members coopted by him.

These committees can coopt persons considered suitable; they should frame estimates of expenditure and submit them to the Sub-Committee as quickly as possible. Committee No.IV should also submit an estimate about sweets to be distributed amongst school children.

10. It was also agreed that an officer of the Home Department and Senior Superintendent of Police,Delhi, should

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

be invited to serve as members of the Sub-Committee.

11. It was agreed that arrangements for all functions which will be held in Viceroy's House, including seating arrangements and issue of invitations will be the responsibility of the Military Secretary. It was also agreed that all arrangements for functions to be held in the Constituent Assembly including seating arrangements and issue of invitations will be made by the Secretary of the Constituent Assembly. The C.P.W.D. will give every assistance.

12. The next meeting of the Sub-Committee was agreed to be held at 3 p.m. on Monday the 28th July 1947.

S. Neelakantam
24-7-1947

B.S. Puri
25-7-1947

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

(63)

Mr. M. A. Hussain of the I.& B. Department has to reply immediately to a query from the Public Relation's Officer at our Washington Embassy if any special celebrations are to be held in Washington on the 15th August. I have promised to inform him tomorrow when and from whom a final decision on this matter would be available to Departments of Government. In this connection please see H.M's P.S's note on the file in which the proposal to declare the 15th August a holiday is being dealt with.

Please make necessary enquiries and let me know tomorrow by 11 o'clock when general orders are likely to issue to Departments of Government.

22-7-47
(R.N.BANERJEE)
SECRETARY.

ark 22/7

1. Secretary's note above.
2. F.D (Rai Sahib O.P.Gupta) promised to return our file with their concurrence tomorrow. Orders will then issue from here immediately as regards the holiday on the 15.8.47.

As regards special celebrations, I tried to contact P.S to H.M till noon, but could not get him. I tried to contact the chief Engineer also, as he is a member of the committee, but could not get him. Secretary may please see for info?. I am pursuing the matter meanwhile.

A V Ramen
23.7.47

11.15 a.m.

Secretary

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

SNo. 59

(64)

Please issue at once reply below

Sd. A. V. Raman
25. 7. 47

SNo. 60 (Issued)

SNos. 61 - 63 (receipt)

SNos. 64 and 65 (Receipt)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA